payable to Delhi State, as a regular mechanism, for the year 1994-95 and onwards". Hence the deduction from Plan assistance for the earlier dues coula not be done.

(c> The deduction from the Plan assistance of Delhi is in compliance of Cabinet decision by way of adjustment for payment to BTPS against its dues from DESU and therefore its restoration does not arise.

(d) The Chief Minister of Delhi has bet n informed that the financial position of BTPS has become very ciitical in view of the continuous default and irregularity in payment of its dues by DESU and that all necessary steps be taken to improve the financial posˈi;ion of DESU including maximising the generation, enforcing better supply & demand management measures, reduction of its T&D losses and checking of pilferage of power etc.

Agreement with Britain for power Projects

1179. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expert team of Industrialists led by British Power Minister visited India in connection with setting up of power projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed;

(c) whether the team found Orissa best suited for settig up the power plant; and

(d) if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL); (a) and (b) A team led by tris British Minister tor Trade, had visited India late last year with a large business delegation which inclided representatives from the Power industry. Amongst the agreements and announcements made was an agreement to refurbish power stations in India signed between an Indian company and a British collaborator.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no information available with the Min-isry of Power.

Agreement signed by National Hydre Electric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC)

1180. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MA-LHOTRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news.item captioned "Francici Farmon Ke Con sortium Ke Saath Karar Se NHPC ko Arboa Rupey Ka Nuksaan Hoga' and "Bharat bifili ke liye krishi-kachre Ka paryog kare" appearing in the Jansatta and Dainik Jagran dated 5th and 8th August, 1994 respectively.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the French Com pany responsible for the civil construction work at Du]hasti HE Project Was not prepared to continue work at the Project site in view of its perception of the 'securiy environment prevailng in the area. NHPC hat entered into an agreement with the French Consortium which envisages termination of the contract with the French civil construction firm and continuation of the remaining four members of the Consortium with their obligatioas. This agreement war arrived at after prolonged negotia. tionss between the two sides in regarc to resumption of work on the project. The construction equipment and ma